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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

May 3, 2004

**MEMORANDUM TO: CHIEF JUDGES, UNITED STATES COURTS  
CIRCUIT EXECUTIVES  
DISTRICT COURT EXECUTIVES  
CLERKS, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURTS**

**SUBJECT:** Amendment to District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule (**INFORMATION**)

On March 16, 2004, the Judicial Conference approved an amendment to the District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule, promulgated under 28 U.S.C. § 1914, to increase the fee for attorney admission (Item 10) from \$50 to \$150. This one-time fee provides a significant benefit to attorneys and was last raised in 1996. Over that time, state bar admission fees have risen substantially. Even with this increase, the federal fee for attorney admissions is considerably lower than the fees charged by state courts, which average \$585.

The new attorney admission fee should be distributed as follows: the first \$20 of the fee to the General Fund Receipt Account, Fund 085000, and the remaining \$130 of the fee to the Filing Fee - Judiciary, Fund 510000. Please note that additional amounts collected by district courts above the admission fee set by the Miscellaneous Fee Schedule are established by local rule and can be retained by the district court as non-appropriated funds.

The Judicial Conference also approved an amendment to the preamble to the district court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule, and you will receive guidance on that amendment in a separate memorandum.

The amendment to the attorney admission fee will take effect June 1, 2004. A copy of the revised fee schedule reflecting these amendments is attached to this memorandum. Should you have any questions on the amendments, please contact Daryll D. Butler, Attorney Advisor, District Court Administration Division, at (202) 502-1503.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph Mecham", is written over a horizontal line.

Leonidas Ralph Mecham

Attachment

### District Court Miscellaneous Fee Schedule<sup>1</sup>

Following are fees to be charged for services provided by the district courts. No fees are to be charged for services rendered on behalf of the United States, with the exception of those specifically prescribed in items 2, 4 and 5. No fees under this schedule shall be charged to federal agencies or programs which are funded from judiciary appropriations, including, but not limited to, agencies, organizations, and individuals providing services authorized by the Criminal Justice Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3006A, and Bankruptcy Administrator programs.

- (1) For filing or indexing any document not in a case or proceeding for which a filing fee has been paid, \$39.
- (2) For every search of the records of the district court conducted by the clerk of the district court or a deputy clerk, \$26 per name or item searched. This fee shall apply to services rendered on behalf of the United States if the information requested is available through electronic access.
- (3) For certification of any document or paper, whether the certification is made directly on the document or by separate instrument, \$9. For exemplification of any document or paper, twice the amount of the fee for certification.
- (4) For reproducing any record or paper, \$.50 per page. This fee shall apply to paper copies made from either: (1) original documents; or (2) microfiche or microfilm reproductions of the original records. This fee shall apply to services rendered on behalf of the United States if the record or paper requested is available through electronic access.
- (5) For reproduction of recordings of proceedings, regardless of the medium, \$26, including the cost of materials. This fee shall apply to services rendered on behalf of the United States, if the reproduction of the recording is available electronically.
- (6) For each microfiche sheet of film or microfilm jacket copy of any court record, where available, \$5.
- (7) For retrieval of a record from a Federal Records Center, National Archives, or other storage location removed from the place of business of the court, \$45.
- (8) For a check paid into the court which is returned for lack of funds, \$45.

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<sup>1</sup>Issued in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 1914.

- (9) For an appeal to a district judge from a judgment of conviction by a magistrate in a misdemeanor case, \$32.
- (10) For original admission of attorneys to practice, \$150 each, including a certificate of admission. For a duplicate certificate of admission or certificate of good standing, \$15.
- (11) The court may charge and collect fees commensurate with the cost of providing copies of the local rules of court. The court may also distribute copies of the local rules without charge.
- (12) The clerk shall assess a charge for the handling of registry funds deposited with the court, to be assessed from interest earnings and in accordance with the detailed fee schedule issued by the Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts.
- (13) For filing an action brought under Title III of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996, P.L. 104-114, 110 Stat. § 785 (1996), \$5,431. (This fee is in addition to the filing fee prescribed in 28 U.S.C. 1914(a) for instituting any civil action other than a writ of habeas corpus.)